

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00

EB-08 H-02 INR-07 IO-14 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

SP-02 OC-06 PRS-01 SS-15 USSS-00 SY-05 FAA-00

WRDE-00 MCT-01 USIA-15 /107 W

-----085196 190119Z /66

R 181446Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6590

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

UNCLAS ROME 13444

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, TT, FR

SUBJECT: HIJACKING OF AIR FRANCE AIRBUS

REF: 10 FAM 521.3

BRUSSELS FOR FAA

1. AN AIR FRANCE AIRBUS A-300 WITH 230 PASSENGERS AND 12 CREW-MEMBERS WAS HIJACKED AUGUST 12, 1977 WHILE FLYING OVER CATANZARO, CALABRIA. ACCORDING TO PRESS ACCOUNTS, THE AIRCRAFT DEPARTED PARIS AT 14:45 (FLIGHT AF-120 PARIS-NICE-CAIRO) WITH 113 PASSENGERS AND NICE AT 17:25 AFTER EMBARKING 117 MORE PASSENGERS. WHILE OVER CATANZARO, THE PILOT WAS COMPELLED TO FLY TOWARDS BENGASI. THE LYBIAN AUTHORITIES, HOWEVER, DENIED LANDING AUTHORIZATION. THE AIRBUS THEN FLEW TOWARDS ATHENS, BUT AS GREEK AUTHORITIES ALSO REFUSED PERMISSION TO LAND, IT TURNED BACK TOWARDS ITALY WHERE THE AUTHORITIES AT BRINDISI-CASALE AIRPORT AUTHORIZED ITS LANDING SINCE FUEL TANKS WERE ALMOST EMPTY. AIRCRAFT LANDED AT 21:39 ON RUNWAY 052/232 OF BRINDISI AIRPORT, ABOUT 500 METERS FROM THE TERMINAL.

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2. REPORTEDLY, THE AIRCRAFT WAS SURROUNDED BY POLICE AND FIREMEN. AT 22:30 THE AIRPORT WAS CLOSED TO TRAFFIC. MEANTIME, 20 PASSENGERS, EGYPTIAN, SAUDI ARABIAN AND SIRIAN NATIONALS, HAD BEEN RELEASED. WHILE AIRCRAFT WAS BEING SLOWLY REFUELED, HIJACKER WENT TO THE MAIN DOOR TO SUPERVISE OPERATIONS. PILOT, CAPT. MAURICE BONY, PUSHED THE HIJACKER OUT AND PROMPTLY CLOSED

THE DOOR. THE HIJACKER, TEREK EL SAYED KATER, 19, AN EGYPTIAN NATIONAL, WAS SEIZED BY POLICE. A TIN BOX, HE HAD CLAIMED WAS FULL OF DYNAMITE, ACTUALLY CONTAINED COOKIES. UNDER ITALIAN LAW NO. 342, MAY 10, 1976 (SEE ROME A-266) ITALIAN NATIONALS AND FOREIGNERS ARE SUBJECT TO ITALIAN LAW WHEN THE AIRCRAFT, WHATEVER ITS REGISTRATION, LANDS ON ITALIAN TERRITORY WITH CRIMINAL ON BOARD.

3. /COMMENT/. MISSION OFFICERS HAVE NOT CONTACTED ITALIAN AUTHORITIES ON THIS CASE AS U.S. AIRCRAFT NOT INVOLVED.HOLMES

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AIRCRAFT HIJACKING, ARRESTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ROME13444
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770299-0343
Format: TEL
From: ROME
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770848/aaaaboof.tel
Line Count: 73
Litigation Code IDs:
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Litigation History:
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1560906
Secure: OPEN
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Subject: HIJACKING OF AIR FRANCE AIRBUS
TAGS: EAIR, EG, FR, (KATER, TEREK EL SAYED)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9b038b58-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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